

MILWAUKEE COUNTY ETHICS BOARD

Tuesday, February 9, 2016, Ethics Board Meeting Minutes

1.0 Call to Order and Roll Call

Board Chair Christian B. Flores called to order a meeting of the Ethics Board at 2:26 p.m. on February 9, 2016, in Room 203-R of the Milwaukee County Courthouse.

The Ethics Board Administrator, Rebecca Janz, conducted a roll call. The following Board Members were present: Clarence Nicholas, Howard Schnoll, Christian B. Flores, and Gary B. Manning.

Marcia Drame appeared by phone at 2:41 p.m.

Carol Wichmann arrived at 2:55 p.m.

2.0 Approval of the Minutes for the Meetings of November 17, 2015, December 16, 2015, and January 21, 2016

Reverend Manning moved, Mr. Schnoll seconded, and the Board voted 4-0 to approve the minutes of the November 17, 2015, December 16, 2015 and January 21, 2016 Ethics Board meetings.

3.0 Election of Officers – *This agenda item was laid over until after item 4.0*

Howard Schnoll nominated Mr. Flores for Chair. Reverend Manning seconded the nomination, and the Board voted 6-0 to approve the nomination of Mr. Christian Flores to Chair of the Ethics Board.

Ms. Drame nominated Ms. Wichmann for Vice Chair. Mr. Manning seconded the nomination, and the Board voted 6-0 to approve the nomination of Ms. Carol Wichmann to Vice Chair of the Ethics Board.

4.0 Report of the Executive Director

Rebecca M. Janz, Executive Director, and the Board discussed the 2015 Annual Report, 2015 Statements of Economic Interest, and Ms. Janz's attendance at the 2015 COGEL Conference.

4.1 2015 4th Quarter Lobbying Report from County Clerk Joseph Czarnecki

This item was informational only. There was no action taken by the Board.

4.2 2015 Annual Report

Rebecca M. Janz, Executive Director, presented the 2015 Annual Report for review and approval by the Board. Reverend Manning moved, Ms. Drame seconded, and the Board voted 5-0 to approve the 2015 Annual Report.

4.3 Statements of Economic Interest – Annual Filing Report

Rebecca M. Janz, Executive Director, presented the Statement of Economic Interest – Annual Filing Report. The Board and Ms. Janz discussed options to encourage employees to more timely submit forms in the future.

4.4 Discussion of Hearing Procedures

Rebecca M. Janz, Executive Director, informed the Board that Ms. Janz and Counsel are currently working to provide draft rule and procedure revisions for review and approval by the Board.

4.5 Report on 2015 COGEL Conference

Rebecca M. Janz, Executive Director, reported on the 2015 Council on Governmental Ethics Laws Conference, including positive feedback regarding the standards and enforcement of the Milwaukee County Ethics Code compared to other jurisdictions.

5.0 **Closed Session**

At 3:03 p.m., Mr. Schnoll moved, Reverend Manning seconded, and the Board voted 6-0 to go into closed session.

19.85 (1) (f) The Board may investigate charges against specific persons.

19.85 (1) (g) The Board may confer with legal counsel concerning litigation strategy.

19.85(1) (h) The Board's deliberations on requests for advice under the ethics code shall be in closed session.

At 3:39 p.m., after discussion in closed session, Mr. Nicholas moved, Ms. Drame seconded, and the Board voted (6-0) to reconvene into open session.

6.0 **Adjournment**

Mr. Nicholas moved, Reverend Manning seconded, and the Board adjourned the meeting at 3:40 p.m.

Minutes submitted by: Rebecca M. Janz
Executive Director, Ethics Board